How answere you that?

Snout. Berlakin, a parlous feare.

Star. I beleeue, we must leaue the killing, out, when all is done.

Bott. Not a whit: I haue a deuise to make all well. Write me a Prologue, and let the Prologue seeme to say; we wil do no harme, with our swords, and that *Pyramus* is not kild indeede: and for the more better assurance, tel them, that I *Pyramus* am not *Pyramus*, but *Bottom* the weauer: this will put them out of feare.

Quin. Well: wee will haue such a Prologue, and it shall be written in eight and six.

Bot. No: make it two more: let it be written in eight & eight.

Snout. Will not the ladies be afeard of the Lyon?

Star. I feare it, I promise you.

Bot. Masters, you ought to consider with your selfe, to bring in (God shielde vs) a Lyon among Ladies, is a most dreadfull thing. For there is not a more fearefull wilde foule then your Lyon liuing: & we ought to looke toote.

Sno. Therfore, another Prologue must tel, he is not a Lion.

Bot. Nay: you must name his name, and halfe his face must be seene through the Lions necke, and he himselfe must speake through, saying thus, or to the same defect; Ladies, or faire Ladies, I would wish you, or I would request you, or I wold intreat you, not to feare, not to trẽble: my life for yours. If you thinke I come hither as a Lyon, it were pittie of my life. No: I am no such thing: I am a man as other men are: & there indeed, let him name his name, and tell them plainely he is *Snugge*, the ioyner.

Quin. Well: it shall be so: but there is two hard things; that is, to bring the Moone-light into a chamber: for you know, *Pyramus* and *Thisby* meete by Moone-light.

Sn. Doth the Moone shine, that night, we play our Play?

Bot.

Bo. A Calender, a Calender: looke in the Almanack: f
out Moone-shine, finde out Moone-shine.

Quin. Yes: it doth shine that night.

Cet. Why then, may you leaue a casement of the g
chamber window (where we play) open; and the Mo
may shine in at the casement.

Quin. I: or els, one must come in, with a bush of tho
& a lãtern, and say he comes to disfigure, or to presen
person of Moone-shine. Then, there is another thing
must haue a wal in the great chãber: for *Pyramus* & T
by (saies the story) did talke through the chinke of a

Sno. You can neuer bring in a wal. What say you *Bot*

Bot. Some man or other must present wall: and let
haue some plaster, or some lome, or some rough cast, al
him, to signifie wall; or let him holde his fingers thus
through that crany, shall *Pyramus* and *Thisby* w
per.

Quin. If that may be, then all is well. Come, sit dow
uery mothers sonne, and reherse your parts. *Pyramus*
beginne: when you haue spoken your speech, enter
that Brake, and so euery one according to his cue.

Enter Robin.

Ro. What hempen home spunnes haue we swaggring
So neere the Cradle of the Fairy Queene?
What, a play toward? Ile be an Auditor,
An Actor too perhappes, if I see cause.

Quin. Speake *Pyramus*: *Thysby* stand forth.

Pyra. *Thisby* the flowers of odious sauours sweete

Quin. Odours, odorous.

Py. Odours sauours sweete,
So hath thy breath, my dearest *Thisby* deare.
But harke, a voice: stay thou but heere a while,
And by and by I will to thee appeare. *Ex*

Quin. A stranger *Pyramus*, then ere played heere.

Thys. Must I speake now?